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PANAMA CANAL



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

July 31, 1978

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Vietnam

Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

This letter is to ask if you will please use your good offices to urge that Congressman Ben Gilman and I accompany Representative Sonny Montgomery on his forthcoming trip to Hanoi. I understand - at least I hope - that among the major topics of discussion with the Vietnamese officials will be the status of American military personnel still listed as Missing-in-Action.

Admiral, there is no one in either the House or the Senate who has been more actively part of the POW-MIA tragedy or involved over a longer span of years than I. As an example of this, in his introduction of me last week to the new Vietnamese counselor to the U.N., Congressman Pete McCloskey pointed out to Mr. Cu Dinh Ba that "the POW bracelet, worn during the Vietnam War by 5 million Americans, was created by Mr. Dornan -- and there are few members of the House or Senate who enjoy a greater confidence among friends and families of Americans currently listed as Missing-in-Action." This was not just a polite introduction of a colleague. It was an accurate statement. I have traveled to all the nations of Indochina many times on this tragic issue and have become a walking logbook of facts, figures, and dates on our Vietnam War POWs.

Admiral, I know you hope that this forthcoming trip will accomplish something. I can assure you this effort will lose all credibility with those still frustrated by the pathetic MIA accounting if there is not a Member of Congress on this August delegation who is clearly a "locked-in" confidant of the MIA families. If Congressman Gilman and I are rejected for this Hanoi trip then it will be perceived by the families as yet another "PR" venture designed to expedite the 'normalization of relations' with Communist Vietnam.

Americans continue to see recurring reports in all media of live sightings of caucasians in the south of Vietnam. These are not merely tales by escaped Vietnamese refugees seeking to curry favor in the hope

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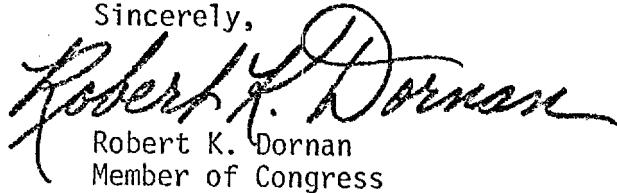
Admiral Stansfield Turner

July 31, 1978

that it will help them to emigrate to the U.S. These sightings are reported in many instances now by credible people. And the frequency increases, not decreases, with the passage of very precious time.

Please let me know if you agree it is important for Mr. Gilman and me to be included as members of this vitally important delegation to Hanoi.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert K. Dornan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "R" at the beginning and a long, sweeping underline.

Robert K. Dornan
Member of Congress

RKD/md

SECRET

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI				
2	DDCI		✓		
3	DD/RM				
4	DD/NFA		✓		
5	DD/CT				
6	DD/A				
7	DD/O		✓		
8	DD/S&T				
9	GC				
10	LC	✓ (att)			
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	PA				
14	D/EEO				
15	D/Pers				
16	AO/DCI				
17	C/IPS				
18	DCI/SS				
19					
20					
21					
22					

SUSPENSE DATE: 9 Aug.

Remarks:

To 10: Pls prepare response for DDCI's signature